

### *Congressman Secured \$150,000 from Congress for Winter Renovation Project*

*Washington, DC* - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today helped highlight the efforts this winter to preserve and renovate the historic sloop Clearwater. Hinchey used his position on the House Appropriations Committee to secure \$150,000 for the preservation efforts as part of the fiscal year 2010 Interior Appropriations bill.

"The Clearwater is a unique vessel that serves as a link to the Hudson River's rich maritime history," Hinchey said. "I was pleased to secured federal funding to help pay for structural repairs to the vessel that are long overdue and will finally be conducted this winter. The Clearwater serves the community as an excellent educational resource and is an important piece of New York history."

Using the \$150,000 that Hinchey secured from Congress along with money from the New York State Office of Parks and Historic Preservation, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater is undertaking an aggressive preservation project while hauled into Saugerties. The renovations include the opening of the sloop's bow and replacement of a number of planks and frames. These repairs will reinforce the structural integrity of the vessel and ensure the safety of all those who board it.

The last major renovation of the vessel was performed in 1976, but still left much of the original woodwork untouched. The sloop is listed on the National Register for Historical Places and has served as an educational tool to the community for more than 40 years.